

## **Hearing Screening Methods**

A hearing screen is a way to determine the possible presence or absence of a hearing loss. A hearing screen does not confirm a hearing loss but determines if further testing is needed. Hearing loss can occur at any age. If there is any concern regarding a child's ability to hear, a hearing screen, using one of the below methods, should be performed.

### **OAE (Otoacoustic Emissions: Transient Evoked, Distortion Product):**

For this hearing screening method, a small cushion is placed in the ear that presents a signal. When the sound reaches the inner ear, the inner ear produces an echo that can be analyzed by the test equipment. An overall pass or refer result is determined.

### **AABR (Automated Auditory Brainstem Response):**

For this hearing screening method, sensor pads are placed around the head and a small cushion is placed in the ear to present a signal. A computer is used to analyze brainwaves to sound and an overall pass or refer results is determined.